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PROGRAMMABLE AUDIO CONTROLLER

SENIOR DESIGN REPORT

for

PHASE II

ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY

PURDUE UNIVERSITY

APRIL 22, 1988

SUBMITTED BY

ROBERT A. SWEIGERT

Table of Contents

List of Figures.....	ii
Project Abstract.....	iii
1.0 Introduction	
1.1 Statement of the Problem.....	1
1.2 Background Information.....	1
1.3 Qualifications.....	2
1.4 Summary of Developed Solution.....	3
1.5 Plan of Procedure.....	5
2.0 Hardware Development	
2.1 Host Computer.....	6
2.2 I/O Interface Adapter.....	6
2.3 Voltage Controlled Amplifier.....	8
2.4 Operation Transconductance Amplifier.....	8
2.5 Volatge Controlled Amplifier Operation.....	8
2.6 Hardware Development Problems.....	9
2.7 Summary of Hardware Development.....	9
3.0 Software Development	
3.1 User Interface Program.....	11
3.2 Data Handling Routines.....	11
3.3 Software Development Problems.....	12
3.4 Summary of Software Development.....	12
4.0 Theory of Operation	
4.1 Physical Installation.....	15
4.2 Program Loading.....	16
5.0 Results/Conclusions of the Project	
5.1 Meeting Objectives.....	17
5.2 Results/Conclusions.....	17
5.3 Future Enhancements.....	17
6.0 References	
6.1 Reference Material.....	18
7.0 Appendices	
Appendix A:.....	Proposal for Project Development
Appendix B:.....	Hardware Schematics
Appendix C:.....	Software Listing
Appendix D:.....	Data Sheets

List of Figures

1. Programmable Audio Controller Block Diagram.....	3
2. I/O Interface Adapter Block Diagram.....	7
3. Voltage Controlled Amplifier Block Diagram.....	10
4. User Program Flow Chart.....	13
5. Sample User Program Screen.....	14

Project Abstract

Programmable Audio Controller

In the field of sound engineering, one of the main tools of the sound technician is an audio mixing console. This device is used to mix a number of audio sources into a composite signal for recording or a public address system. When doing sound engineering for a musical group, there is an opportunity to automate some of the audio mixing functions. This is because the group will most likely be performing the same musical selections at a number of performances.

The way a programmable audio controller can assist in this task is to 'remember' the level of the audio signals that were used to create the original performance. In this way when a musical group performs the same selection at a different location, the audio levels can be controlled based on information from the last performance.

A programmable audio controller (the subject of this report) consists of an IBM PC used as a host system to record and replay data about the musical performance. Connected to the computer is an interface unit that will control audio signals.

The host computer and the interface unit are connected to an existing audio mixing console. This forms an integrated system to provide automated mixing capabilities. This system would then be used by a musical group to reduce or possibly eliminate the need for a sound engineer.